

**JEWELRY STRUCTURE WITH HIGH FLEXIBILITY OF USE****SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION****CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a national stage of
5 PCT/EP2003/007817 filed 18 July 2003 and based upon Italian
national application Mi2002/U000404 of 27 August 2002 under the
International Convention.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a jewelry structure
10 with high flexibility of use.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

As is known jewelry, taken in the general sense of the
term, has the main goal of making the person wearing it look
more beautiful since ancient times.

15 Among the various types of jewelry, jewels and the
like, therefore, despite the very numerous different structures,
their only use is, indeed, that mentioned above.

Indeed, besides making a person look more beautiful,
jewelry, jewels and the like currently available on the market
20 have no other function.

Indeed, a possible function as a paper knife, clip, key ring, etc., remains totally distinct. since, in this case, it has just one use and it is the tool which is made to look nicer, but it is impossible, for example, to use a paperweight for its
5 main function and to wear it.

OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION

The main object of the present invention is to eliminate the aforementioned drawbacks of the prior art.

An important object of the invention is to provide a
10 jewellery jewelry structure with high flexibility of use which can be used just as effectively as an element for example for locking cases or to be worn or even as an element for supporting other precious items such as stones, coins, precious metals and the like.

15 Yet another object of the invention is to provide a jewelry structure with high flexibility of use which can easily replace any holding element such as a key ring as well as carrying out the functions described above.

20 Last but not least, it is an object of the invention to provide a jewelry structure with high flexibility of use which can be used in its primary function and appearance progressively enriched and made to look more beautiful with further precious or aesthetically pleasing elements according to the requirements and possibilities of the user.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

These objects are attained in a jewelry structure with high flexibility of use, which comprises a member slidably associated with two cords having at one end; stop elements for said member and, at the opposite end, connection elements for the removable joining together of said cords to form a closed ring the size of which can be changed through the translation of said member along said cords.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Further characteristics and advantages shall become clearer from the detailed description of a jewelry structure according to the invention, reference being made to the accompanying drawing, in which:

FIG. 1 is an elevational view of the jewelry structure according to the invention, the slidable member of which is arranged at an end of the cords;

FIG. 2 is a similar view of the jewelry structure in which the slidable member, as an example, is arranged at $2/3$ the length of the cords according to the invention;

FIG. 3 is a diagrammatic elevational view which shows a jewelry structure in which the slidable member acts as a support, for example, for a precious item;

FIGS. 4 and 5 are fragmentary elevational views which show the jewellery structure in which the slidable member supports, for example, one or more decorative precious stones;

FIGS. 6 and 7 are respectively a partial section and a perspective view of the slidable member enlarged and sectioned; and

FIG. 8 is an elevational view which shows the finding used, for example, for closing a box.

SPECIFIC DESCRIPTION

With particular reference to the figures described above, the jewelry structure with high flexibility of use, wholly indicated with reference numeral 1, comprises a member 2, slidable along two cords 3, which have, at a first end thereof, stop elements in the form of two small balls 4, for the member 2.

At the opposite end to the balls, the cords have connection elements 5, which can be any clip, and in particular in this case are two small cylinders 18 with a male and female threading so as to be able to be screwed together.

The closing of the connection elements 5 allows the removable joining of the cords 3 so that they can form a ring 6 which is closed and the size of which can be varied through translation of the member 2 along the cords, as can be seen, for example, by comprising FIGS. 1 and 2.

Advantageously, the member 2 is formed from three discs 7, 8 and 9 having a decreasing diameter from disc 7 to disc 9 and which are arranged coaxially to each other and form a single body.

5 The three discs 7, 8 and 9 have two holes 10 which traverses them. The member 2 can be seen in the drawing to have a central vertical axis of symmetry and a support upper surface transverse to this axis on which the stone 15, for example, can be supported (FIGS. 4 and 5).

10 Advantageously, the distance between the holes 10 on the disc 7 with the greatest diameter is greater than the distance between the holes on the disc 9 with the smallest diameter so that the two holes slightly converge with each other. The convergence of the holes has the dual advantage of
15 determining, at the exit from the upper disc 7, an inclination of the cords such as to decrease the possibility of accidental sliding of the member 2 along them.

20 Moreover, in this way the possible forces which are created at the top of the three discs 7, 8 and 9 are transmitted to the two balls 4 in a reduced form.

Advantageously, the cords have, along their extension lengths, at least one zone 11 suitable for generating friction inside the holes 10 so as to allow the member 2 to be held in the predetermined position.

Clearly, the cords can have many zones 11, or even be along their entire length, formed so as to create substantial friction inside the holes 10 and thus to allow the positioning of the member 2 at any part of their length. Indeed, in zone 11 or
5 along all of the cords or in many zones 11, the diameter of these is equal to or slightly greater than that of the holes so as to generate the friction required for holding the member 2 in the desired position. Instead of the zones 11, the cords can have stops 16 suitable for holding other precious elements in the
10 desired position.

It is also possible, as can be seen in FIG. 2, that the portions of the cords coming out from the member 2 can have different lengths so as to change the aesthetic configuration of the jewelry as desired.

15 Moreover, as can be seen in FIGS. 4 and 5, the member 2 can act as a support for other precious and/or ornamental elements, such as stones 15 or many stones associated with each other or spaced apart.

20 Also in this case, the possibility of positioning the stones 15 in any area of the cords, thanks to the sliding of the member 2, allows the aesthetic form of the jewelry item and its function to be varied as desired.

25 Indeed, the jewelry article, as represented in FIGS. 1 and 2, can also advantageously be used as a closing element for boxes (FIG. 8) or eyeglass cases or the like and can even be

used as a key ring, a paper weight, a hairclip, a bracelet, a belt, etc.

Advantageously, it should also be specified' that the member defined by the three discs 7, 8 and 9, if seen from a top side view, represents a stylized eagle.

The operation of the jewelry structure with high flexibility of use according to the invention is clear from that which has been described and illustrated.

In particular, as already highlighted, the slidable member 2 can be positioned in any position along the length of the cords 3 so as to make the jewellery take up different configurations for different uses.

In the case in which stones or other precious and/or ornamental elements are inserted in the cords 3, the member 2 will act as a support and positioning element for them according to the requirements in any part along the cords 3.

In practice the jewellery structure according to the invention is particularly advantageous when worn as an element to make a person look more beautiful; its configuration and use can be varied by varying its appearance; it can be used as a hairclip, as a bracelet, as a key ring, as an element for closing boxes, packages and cases and, last but not least, also as a support element. for skirts and trousers or as an element to make a person look more appealing to be worn on ankles, swimsuits and the like.

23227

Patent Application Ser. No. 10/526,250

In practice, the materials used as well as the sizes can be whatever according to the requirements and the state of the art.

ge-